

# San Diego DX Club Bulletin

January 2017



## JANUARY PROGRAM CLUB HISTORY PANEL DISCUSSION

### MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,

San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

MEETING, 6:30 P.M

From the Prez

2

Bouvet 2018 Fundraiser

3

VP Report

5

Sec/Treas Report

6

TOP 10

7

Holiday Parts Pics

7

From the Editor

8



**President:**

**Howard Groveman, W6HDG**

(858) 204-2322

w6hdg@arrl.net

**Vice President/Pgm Chair:**

**Mike Binder, NA6MB**

na6mb.mike@gmail.com

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

**Randy Standke, KQ6RS**

(619) 890-2697

r55stan@gmail.com

**Past President:**

**John Vissat, NA6L**

CQ-NA6L@hotmail.com

**Board of Directors:**

**Ron Stockton, NØRR**

(760) 224-7139

rjstockton@cox.net

**Miguel Rivera, KJ6YXI**

(619) 818-1261

rivera1pet315@gmail.com

**Ron Richards, WB1EAZ**

(978) 764-4398

ronaldbrichards@yahoo.com

**Ladder:**

**John Barcroft, K6AM**

k6am@arrl.net

**Webmaster:**

**Glen Christensen, AI6RR**

**Historian:**

**Glenn Rattmann, K6NA**

(760) 749-3936

k6na@cts.com

**Bulletin Editor:**

**Bob Farkaly, K9RHY**

(619) 602-2653

bob@farkaly.com

## From the Prez . . .

Howard, W6HDG

I'd like to wish our club members a healthy and happy New Year.

It is definitely happy for me. It's been exactly two years since I installed my 65 foot tower in Poway and I'm still smiling. Since the ordinance approval in late 2015 three other antenna installations of 50+ feet have been easily approved without red tape. There are plenty of non-CCR older homes in Poway which means Poway went from zero to hero for hams. Maybe all those real estate agents who adamantly opposed the ordinance can now use it as a selling point!

This would not have been possible without the DX Club and others coming together to help get the Poway antenna ordinance passed. Antennas had been an issue in Poway since the City's incorporation in 1980. We came close in November 2005 after major efforts by many members of the DX Club worked toward a proposed 50 foot height limit. That effort got tabled by the City Council for a future meeting just as it was to be voted on. Turns out that a future meeting would not be held until 2015 when we hired an attorney to again raise the issue with the City. Love or hate attorneys, sometimes you can't live without one. For a spine tingling account of events, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-operators-delighted-with-california-city-council-s-antenna-decision>. It was the ultimate underdog story and I sometimes dream of getting it made into a major motion picture starring Tommy Lee Jones as Charles Ristorcelli NN3V. Until then, I want to once again express my gratitude to all who supported the effort. It was my pleasure to provide the food at the last two council meetings and it even inspired my new call phonetics!

73 and Gud DX,

Howard, W6HDG (Hot Dog Guy)





**BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION 2018**

**ANNOUNCING THE BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION 2018**

The Team

The Bouvet Island DXpedition 2018  
3YØZ  
The Most Remote Island on Earth

NORSK-POLARINSTITUTT

www.bouvetdx.org

Team Members (Top Row): DJ9ZB - Franz, EY8MM - Nodir, HK1R - Jorge, KØIR - Ralph, K4UEE - Bob, K9CT - Craig, LA6VM - Erling, N4GRN - George, N6HC - Arnie, N9TK - Jim

Team Members (Bottom Row): NM1Y - Jeff, LA9DL - Just, PA5M - Michael, UA3AB - Andy, VA7DX - Neil, VE7CT - Steve, WØGJ - Glenn, W6IZT - Gregg, W8HC - Hal, WB9Z - Jerry

## Request for Bouvet DXpedition-2018 Financial Support

An experienced DXpedition team of 20 operators are in the advanced planning stages of a DXpedition to Bouvet Island (3YØZ). The DXpedition is scheduled for early 2018. This DXpedition may be the most expensive DXpedition ever! Bouvet Island is known as "The Most Isolated Island on Earth", and is currently ranked #2 on the ClubLog's "most wanted" list.

The DXpedition leaders are: Erling – LA6VM, Bob – K4UEE, and Ralph – KØIR. This is the same leadership team that brought you 3YØX-Peter I Island, K5D-Desecheo Island, HKØNA- Malpelo Island, FT5ZM-Amsterdam Island and, most recently, K1N-Navassa Island.

We have an extraordinary international team of 20 operators. These team members collectively have been part of scores of DXpeditions and have handed out an amazing 4,600,000 QSOs. The Antarctic and harsh climate experience of this team includes Heard Island, South Sandwich (twice) South Georgia (twice), the South Orkneys, and Peter I (twice). Non-Antarctic DXpeditions with these team members include places like Amsterdam Island, Malpelo, Navassa, Desecheo, Bhutan, Saba, Easter Island, Wake Island, Palmyra, Reunion, Midway, Kure, Fiji, Swains, Baker Howland, Conway Reef, Kingman Reef, Eritrea, Lakshadweep, Svalbard and others.

We have all the permits necessary for landing on Bouvet Island, establishing a camp and setting up our ham radio equipment and antennas. We first applied for a permit after 3YØX, so we have been working on this project for ten years. We now have the right combination of a ship, a helicopter, and a workable financial plan. Everything is in place except our financing. This is where we need your support---the support of your Club and individual members.

The DXpedition team expects to be away for about 7-8 weeks. The voyage to Bouvet will require about two weeks as will the return. We plan to be at the island for three weeks and weather permitting, expect to be on the air for 14-16 days. We will transport our team and equipment ashore by helicopter, setting up on the Slakhallet Glacier at approximately 200 meters ASL. This location is on the northeastern part of Bouvet. This area will maximize our ability to work all continents. We have deliberately chosen not to do a beach landing and operation, since beach landings are extremely hazardous and beach locations do not give clear, unobstructed paths to major population areas. Also, the Ny-roysa site used by previous DXpeditions has been declared off-limits by the Norsk Polar Institute.



This will be an all-band, all-mode DXpedition with stations on every open band. Antennas will include Yagis for the high bands and verticals for the low bands. We will run maximum legal power. Our primary station and hardware sponsors are Flex Radio Systems and DX Engineering. We are aware that the low bands will be of great importance, therefore Nodir – EY8MM is working with other low band enthusiasts from around the world to maximize our footprint on these bands. At a minimum, our station count will be nine with reserves in place. We believe we will be able to do EME without compromising resources on the HF bands.

Our QSL manager will be N2OO and his SJDXA crew. We will have an on-line log and submit our logs to LOTW within six months after our return.

Our total budget for this DXpedition is \$610,000. As with our previous DXpeditions, the team is committed to paying 50% of the expenses. The upfront cost for each operator is projected to be a minimum of \$15,000 plus travel to and from our embarkation and disembarkation point, likely to be Punta Arenas, Chile.

Club/Foundation and individual donors can be seen on our website: [www.bouvetdx.org](http://www.bouvetdx.org)

All donors will be acknowledged on our website. Clubs will have their logos posted with major contributors receiving proportionately more space. The contribution required for your logo on our QSL card is a minimum of \$500. For your club's name on the QSL the minimum is \$250. Individual DXer's contributions of \$100 or more will be listed on the QSL card.

We encourage you to visit the Bouvet Island website (<http://www.bouvetdx.org>) and donate via the PayPal link. It's free and easy -- and you can contribute with a major credit card, even without a PayPal account. If that is not convenient, you may make a check or money order payable to DX Expeditions, Inc. - Bouvet and mail to Bob Allphin-K4UEE the address shown below. Remember to put your club's name or your callsign on the "for" line.

**Please make your check to: *DX Expeditions, Inc. – Bouvet***  
**and mail the check to:**

**Bob Allphin-K4UEE**  
**4235 Blackland Dr.**  
**Marietta, GA 30067**

If any members of your club have questions, I would be happy to address them personally. Our team would be honored to be considered for your support of the Bouvet Island DXpedition-2018.

73 and great DXing,

Bob Allphin-K4UEE

# VP Report

*Mike, NA6MB*



## Holiday Party

Our annual holiday party was held Sunday, December 18, 2016. We had a great time and a nice dinner at the Fiddler's Green restaurant in Point Loma.

Thanks to owners Steve and Debi Rock for making it so easy.

Some great door prizes were giving away this year including a Pro7 headset by Heil Sound, an antenna analyzer and a remote control system by RigExpert and a portable battery system by Bioenno Power. There were also lots of other nice prizes as well.

We also had our traditional holiday gift exchange. As usual it starts out calmly and then becomes more exciting as the stealing of gifts accelerates.

I hope everyone had as much fun as Gayle K6GO and I did.

There will be pictures posted as soon as we create a location to post them. A link will be published on the SDDXC website and reflector when they are ready.

Special thanks to Gayle K6GO and Howard W6HDG for their help in getting the party organized and obtaining prizes.

## January Program Information

### Club History Panel Discussion

Ever wonder where the SDDXC came from?

How and why was it formed? and when?

What were the most interesting things that have happened in Club history?

Well if you want the answers to these and other questions come to the January SDDXC meeting and find out!

We will have a panel discussion including several esteemed members that have been in the club for many years.

The panel will consist of:

John K6AM, Terry N6CW, Jim W6YA and Jim K6ZH

Come to the meeting on January 25, 2017 and find out about our roots.

Some old photos and documents will be on display.

Also, ask questions of the panel and get answers to YOUR questions.

See you in January!

*Mike, NA6MB*

## Secretary/Treasurer Reports

*Randy, KQ6RS*

### Meeting Minutes, SDDXC Club, November 23, 2016

At 6:15 pm the meeting was called to order. 20 members and no guests were in attendance.

We voted on and approved Lou Poanessa, KW6Q as our new member.

Old business – the October meeting minutes and Treasurer's report were approved.

Howard announced there is no regular meeting in December.

New business – the holiday party will be held on December 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-4:30 pm at Fiddlers Green on Shelter Island where the party has been held the past two years.

We voted on and approved \$165.00 (which is a 50% discount) for a RigExpert, AA-54 Antenna Analyzer for a holiday party prize.

It was announced that many door prizes will be given at the Holiday Party.

From 6:22 we had our roundtable discussions.

At 6:43 Arnie Schatz, M.D., N6HC, gave a presentation on Medical Considerations for DXpeditions.

At 8:09 the meeting was adjourned.

### Treasurer's Report

Income for November \$90 (memberships)

Expenses for November \$185.00 (November speaker's dinner, Holiday Party prize)

Statement Balance on 11/25/2016 \$8,132.51

### Meeting Minutes, SDDXC Club, December 18, 2016

Since we did not have an actual meeting this month, these are not to be considered as "official meeting minutes." I thought it would be good to include the Treasurer's Report this month, rather than go two months between them.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual Holiday Party at Fiddlers Green (for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row). A total of 52 (members and guests) were in attendance. The club picked up half of the cost.

Membership renewals – as of 12/30/16, there are 33 members who still need to pay renewal dues.

### Treasurer's Report

Income for December \$780 (membership renewal for 1, 2 or 3 years)

Expenses for November \$720.53 (\$702 to Fiddlers Green for half of the cost for 52 diners, \$18.53 for office supplies)

Statement Balance on 12/29/2016 \$8,191.98



*Randy, KQ6RS*





No TOP 10 this month. Back in February.

John, K6AM

## Some 2016 Holiday Party Pictures





## From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



## The Russians are Coming!

I was living in Libertyville, IL in 1985 when I had my first QSO with Yuri Retin, UA9YE. At the time, I was a pretty rabid DXer, working on 5DDXCC, 5BWAZ, Russian Oblasts, etc.

Yuri and I communicated via 20M SSB and snail mail fairly regularly. It was incredibly interesting to have a close friend in what (at the time) was the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (the USSR).

As one of several locals who were chasing Oblasts of the USSR (there were a total of 193 from the far eastern to the far western realms of the country, Yuri was a great help to me in achieving this



award. I finally received this award after collecting 193 QSL cards and sending them to the Central Radio Club, P.O. Box 88, Moscow, USSR (remember that address?) in 1990. My "All Oblast" certificate endorsement, #131, was dated January 31, 1990 after receiving the base award (100 Oblasts) in 1987. Yuri contributed primarily by helping me collect the QSL cards from all over the USSR by telephoning and corresponding with Russian hams who may not have been the best QSLers.

We also exchanged gifts, with my best contribution being a PK-232 TNC that Yuri wanted in order to acti-

vate the digital modes just being opened to USSR hams. He sent me some beautiful Russian coffee table books.

Yuri's UA9YE call indicates that he lives in Oblast 99, the Altai Oblast in western Siberia.

Yuri's latest QSL card shows the Altai region around his "dacha" or summer home just outside the city of Barnaul.







Yuri's permanent residence is in Barnaul where he and his wife both work as engineers at the Barnaul Division of the St. Petersburg Tractor Factory, a major industrial concern in the Altai region.

## The Visit

Sometime during our conversations, I invited Yuri to visit myself and my family at our home in the

suburbs of Chicago. Then sometime during the summer of 1990, Yuri told me he had secured permission to travel to the USA so he could take me up on my offer. He was bringing along another friend, Mike Filippov, UWØMF who lived in Vladivostok and Mike's wife, Olga. What excitement!

There were a lot of preparation tasks to attend to. As Yuri's sponsor, I had to arrange all forms of insurance for the visitors. I had to fill out endless questionnaires from the Russian government (although the US Government required no paperwork from me).

When the day of their arrival finally arrived, I picked them up at O'Hare Airport. Before going on to my next point, I wanted to refresh your memories about what life was like in the Soviet Union in the days before the collapse/fall/dissolution. I suspect you have read about or seen television programs about Russian life in those days. Everything you saw or heard about was true. Let me share some experiences:

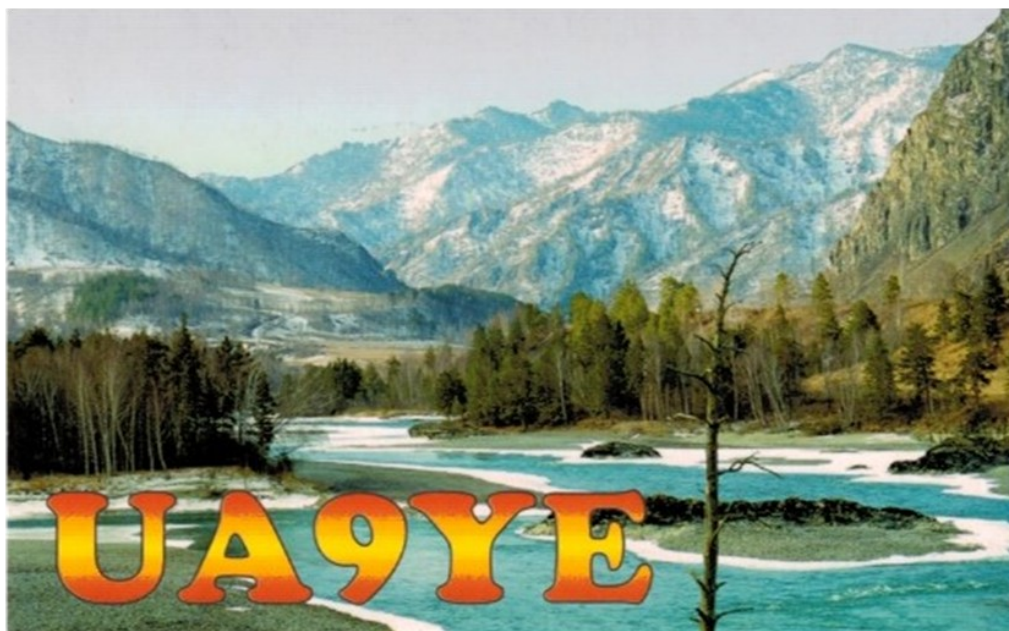
After picking Yuri, Mike and Olga up at the airport, the FIRST thing they wanted to do was to go to a McDonald's for a hamburger. They had never seen a McDonald's in real life and wanted to take pictures to show their friends back home.

During their visit, I took them to a supermarket. That almost floored them! Rows and rows of canned goods, coffee and everything else was almost more than they could handle. They were like kids in a candy store with eyes open as wide as saucers.

The next item on the shopping agenda was Walmart. My guests all bought new luggage that they later filled up with clothes, shoes and other impossible-to-buy-at-home consumer goods. They arrived with three suitcases and left with nine.

While staying with us in Libertyville, we spent a lot of time talking about our respective lifestyles. I was surprised to learn how small the average Russian living space was. Their apartments and homes are like apartments in Midtown-New York City. Tiny. They were amazed at the size of our modest QTH in the Chicago suburb.

We accommodated them in two guest rooms in our house, both borrowed from the kids for the length of the visit. Since they were so used to living in Russian living spaces, our three guests spent most of their non-sleeping hours in a single room. They were used to "closeness".



While Olga's English was very good, Yuri and Mike's command of the language was fluent, idiomatic and superb. Mike's English, in fact, was virtually without accent.

Here is a picture of the group in the living room of our Libertyville house. L to R, Mike, Olga, Yuri and your SDDXC Editor (in his younger days).



The other thing we spent time doing was playing ham radio. Both Yuri and Mike took turns at the microphone, I am looking at my logbook from October 8 and 9, 1990 with the calls of the ops that Yuri and Mike QSO'd. That was quite an operating experience. I remember Yuri calling CQ in Russian for the first time and getting deluged with replies. He probably worked 100 calls in short order – all Russians from both Europe and Asia. Listening to him knock 'em off in Russian was magnificent. Mike then followed and did the same.



One of the once-in-a-lifetime highlights of the visit was a mini-DXer convention/lunch at a restaurant in the airport. I had received a call from Jim Smith, VK9NS (SK), letting me know that he was going to be transiting through Chicago on his way from Norfolk Island to the East coast. I called a few of the locals and put together a lunch that turned out to be memorable.





In the picture, standing back row, left to right, Yuri, UA9YE, Mike, UW0MF, Olga, Mike's XYL, Bob, K9RHY. Front row seated, Mike McGirr, K9AJ (also 8Q7AJ, 9N1MM (guest CW op), XF4DX, K9AJ/KC8, K9AJ/KH5K, W0RLX/KH5, AH1A, T30AJ, T32AJ, J3J, VK0IR, TO0R, C6AJR, K9AJ/VY0 (many IOTAs), CE8A, VP6DI, VP6AJ, V63J, BS7H, PW6C, T32MI, T32CI, T32VI, T32SI, K6VVA/KL7, H44AJ), Gordon Bazsali, WB9EEE (top of the IOTA Honor Roll), a Silent Key whose call has now escaped me and Jim Smith, VK9NS (now SK).



The last day of the Russian visit was exciting. Terry Sterman, W9DIA (now SK), the President of Amateur Electronic Supply (AES— now part of HRO) volunteered his airplane and crew to fly Yuri, Mike and Olga from a regional airport near my home to Milwaukee and beyond in his Beechcraft Starship.



What a cool aircraft! Twin turboprops, top speed 385 MPH! Comfortable, luxurious.



Here's the gang getting ready to board the Starship and the picture below shows them sitting comfortably inside before taking off.



I'm still frequently in touch with Yuri, but I haven't seen him or Mike or Olga since that Starship blasted off.

I'm delighted that I had the opportunity to put this story together. I've talked about this visit with friends, but this is the first time I've written about it. I hope you enjoyed their visit as much as I did. But I wonder what they told their friends when they got home?

**Bob, K9RHY**